

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L NATO 05240

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
SUBJECT: NATO HEADQUARTERS CRISIS MANAGEMENT EXERCISES
AND PROCEDURES

REF: (A) STATE 111628 DTG 161519Z MAY 77, NOTAL, (B)
USNATO 04293 DTG 281012Z MAY 77, (C) USNATO 04937 DTG
081522Z JUN 77

SUMMARY: THIS CABLE RESPONDS TO WASHINGTON'S REQUESTS IN
REF A FOR USNATO VIEWS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON (1) NATO
HQS' INVOLVEMENT IN FUTURE HILEX/WINTEX EXERCISES AND
(2) SOUNDNESS OF EXISTING PROCEDURES FOR DECLARATION OF
GENERAL ALERT AND DESIGNATION OF HOSTILE COUNTRIES (OTHER
WASHINGTON POINTS IN REF A HAVE BEEN INCORPORATED INTO
DRAFT WINTEX 77 REPORT (SEE REFS B AND C)). ACTION
REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE. END SUMMARY.

1. NATO HQS EXERCISE INVOLVEMENT:
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OUR VIEW WITH RESPECT TO FUTURE INVOLVEMENT IN THE
HILEX SERIES IS THAT THE DPC SHOULD PLAY AS IT HAS IN
THE PAST -- AT THE SYG/PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE LEVEL
THROUGHOUT THE PERIOD OF THE EXERCISE. OTHERWISE
SUPPORTING STAFFS AND NATIONAL DELEGATIONS WILL TEND TO
CONDUCT THEIR NORMAL DAY-TO-DAY BUSINESS AND WILL NOT BE
MOTIVATED TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN THE CRISIS MANAGE-

MENT ASPECTS OF THE EXERCISE. HOWEVER, GIVEN THE GREATLY EXPANDED PERIOD OF PLAY, WE DO NOT CONSIDER SUCH AN APPROACH PRACTICAL OR DESIRABLE FOR NATO HQS' PLAY DURING THE WINTEX SERIES. IN THE WINTEX CASE, WE RECOMMEND THAT: (1) PERM REPS PLAY FOR A SHORT PERIOD, PERHAPS 48-72 HOURS DURING A SELECTED CRITICAL PHASE, E.G., THE EARLY CRISIS PERIOD, THE PERIOD LEADING UP TO DECLARATION OF GENERAL ALERT, OR THE NUCLEAR CONSULTATION PHASE, (2) THE DPC BE REPRESENTED BY LOWER-LEVEL NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES (NOT NECESSARILY AT THE DEPUTY PERM REP LEVEL) DURING OTHER PERIODS WHEN DPC PLAY IS NECESSARY, AND (3) THE DPC BE REPRESENTED BY A STAFF RESPONSE CELL DURING PERIODS WHEN NATO HQS POLICY INPUTS ARE NOT ESSENTIAL FOR MNC-CONDUCTED PLAY. WE WOULD ENVISION PARTICIPATION AT SUITABLY HIGH AGENCY LEVELS IN CAPITALS DURING PERIODS WHEN THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES ARE PLAYING AND AT LOWER LEVELS DURING PERIODS WHEN NATO HQS IS REPRESENTED BY A RESPONSE CELL MADE UP OF NATIONAL STAFF REPRESENTATIVES. WE DO NOT BELIEVE IT NECESSARY OR APPROPRIATE FOR STATE OR DOD TO PARTICIPATE WHEN NATO HQS IS BEING REPRESENTED BY A STAFF RESPONSE CELL WITHOUT NATIONAL REPRESENTATION.

2. GENERAL ALERT PROCEDURES:

A. WE BELIEVE THE PROBLEMS WHICH SURFACED DURING WINTEX 77 WITH RESPECT TO PROCEDURES FOR DECLARATION OF GENERAL ALERT (DGA) AND DESIGNATION OF HOSTILE COUNTRIES (DHC) ARE REAL AND SUBSTANTIVE, BUT ALSO WERE EXACERBATED BY EXERCISE ARTIFICIALITIES.

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CISE ARTIFICIALITIES.

B. HOWEVER, WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED INFORMALLY THAT SHAPE DOES NOT CONSIDER THESE PROBLEMS SUFFICIENTLY CRITICAL TO WARRANT A MAJOR RE-EXAMINATION OF THE DGA/DHC PROCEDURES DURING WHICH -- GIVEN THE CURRENT POLITICAL SITUATION IN EUROPE -- NATO MIGHT LOSE MORE THAN IT WOULD GAIN.

C. WE ALSO NOTE THAT, WHEN THIS MATTER WAS RAISED BY THE UK REP IN THE COUNCIL OPERATIONS AND EXERCISES COMMITTEE (COEC) IN CONNECTION WITH THE DRAFT WINTEX REPORT (SEE REF B), THE NETHERLANDS, DANISH AND IMS REPS EXPRESSED STRONG OPPOSITION TO A RE-EXAMINATION OF MC 67/3. NO COEC REP SPOKE IN FAVOR OF SUCH ACTION.

D. THE COEC STAFF HAS ATTEMPTED TO ACCOMMODATE THE UK POSITION IN THE REVISED DRAFT REPORT (SEE REF C) BY CONCLUDING THAT QUOTE IT IS CONSIDERED THAT THE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES IN MC 67/3 (FINAL) ARE SOUND, BUT THAT FURTHER

CLARIFICATION IN THE NATO CRISIS MANAGEMENT MANUAL (CMM-1)
OF GENERAL ALERT, THE DESIGNATION OF AGGRESSOR NATIONS,
AND ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN IN THE EVENT OF AN ATTACK WOULD
BE ADVANTAGEIOUS AS THIS DOCUMENT IS READILY ACCESSIBLE
TO HIGH-LEVEL OFFICIALS, END QUOTE.

E. THEREFORE, GIVEN SHAPE'S POSITION, WE PROPOSE TO
SUPPORT THE COMPROMISE WORDING QUOTED ABOVE AT THE NEXT
COEC MEETING UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON COMMENT AND GUIDANCE ON
ABOVE RECOMMENDATIONS BY OOB JULY 1, 1977. STREATOR

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